

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015

President Fraim called the meeting to order at 5:13 p.m. with the following members present: Ms. Johnson, Mr. Riddick, Mr. Smigiel, Dr. Whibley, Mr. Winn and Mr. Protogyrou. Mrs. Graves was absent.

He thereupon called on the City Manager to review the agenda. The Manager noted two budget ordinances and a presentation on Resilience. He then asked Lori Crouch, Public Relations Manager, to review weekend events.

Lori Crouch, Public Relations Manager, reported on happenings around the city, noting the end of September the city manager was invited to join the 100 Resilient Cities, director of city relationships on stage at the 101st Annual International City/County Management Association meeting. The manager was asked to participate and discuss Norfolk's experience as a resilient community. It was a great opportunity for Norfolk to share our story as a city thriving with water and how we are striving to incorporate resilience into city forecast.

This week in Norfolk we're celebrating our second annual visual arts week. The event began in Ocean View this past weekend with the 53rd Annual Ocean View Art Show. The Neon Festival is celebrating all achievements in the arts district this Thursday and Friday and the week will conclude with the Stockley Gardens Art Festival this weekend. Finally, a big thank you to the Chrysler Museum Glass Studio. Their artists graciously volunteered last weekend to create Norfolk's ornament for the 2015 holiday season at the Governor's Mansion. The anchor ornament will hang with the other handmade ornaments on a large tree in the mansion's ballroom as part of the executive mansion holiday scene celebrating Virginia's originality.

A. COUNCIL INTERESTS

1. Councilman Protogyrou:

- Commented on the policy concerning civic leagues using public parks for civic activities, noting they must pay \$500 to use the parks and don't have that kind of money for a Christmas tree lighting event. He asked for an examination of the feasibility of the Manager's Office setting aside money for civic leagues to use for appropriate civic activities.

- Stated that Mason Creek residents are happy that things are moving along on the dredging issue, noting that the Corps of Engineers has established October 28th as the comment deadline. He stated that there are comments that really need to come from the city and asked if it is possible if they could have someone from the city meet with them before the 28th deadline and get their comments.
- Asked the administration to check if the outfalls around Mason Creek were vacuumed out before the storm hit and, if so, how soon was it done.
- Commented on the location of an orange barrel on Bayview Boulevard at an outfall that has been there for almost a year, noting that a metal top was dropped into the outfall which is now covered with a piece of wood and a large orange barrel about a block from Granby Street. He asked if they could order a metal top and get rid of the barrel.

2. Councilman Riddick:

- Received calls from residents in Oakwood expressing concern that their trash was not picked up during the storm after being told to set them out for pick up.
- Stated that he was at a civic league meeting for Sandy Homes off of Miller Store Road and they have expressed concern with speeding down Miller Store Road between Robin Hood and Azalea Garden Road. They would like for traffic engineering and Council to explore making that one way.
- Expressed concern with trash and debris, tires, washing machines, etcetera along Miller Store Road and also the need for lighting in the community.
- Stated that Council needs to address affordable housing and low-income housing and would like to have a full-day meeting with NRHA to have a serious discussion about housing.

3. Councilman Winn stated that it was brought up at the last meeting about a vacant lot in the Riverview area and asked if the city is at least looking at that and the possibility of acquiring it to help the business district.
4. Councilwoman Whibley asked for ongoing updates on the surplus funds as far as how much is being spent and on what.

5. Councilwoman Johnson:

- With respect to trash pickup, she stated that it may be a good idea to stick with the regular trash pickup schedule that way it will cut down on some of the confusion over when to put cans out.
- Asked for an update on the schools, as far as building, technology equipment, materials, furniture, etcetera.

6. Councilman Smigiel:

- Commented that the recent storm hit Ocean View beaches pretty hard and that the city has not cleaned the beaches yet and there is still a lot of debris on them. He noted one section between Thirsty Camel and Greenies where there is a section of houses where the beach has been depleted and a lot of rocks dislodged that were there holding up the land and they are asking for them to be put back.
- Commented that Ocean Avenue and Bay Avenue are one way streets that go out to the Military Base and citizens have been requesting assistance from the city about speeding, asking for stop signs to be put in to help slow traffic down in that area.

7. Councilman Protogyrou asked the administration to consider moving a bus stop on West Little Creek Road coming from Titustown towards Wards Corner from Ruthven Road closer to the intersection of Newport and West Little Creek Road.

B. BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

Sabrina Joy-Hogg, Deputy City Manager reported:

- There are two ordinances on today's agenda amending the Operating and Capital Budgets appropriating and allocating \$8.5 million in surplus funds in accordance with Council's direction at the September Retreat.

C. STORM UPDATE

Jim Redick, Director of Emergency Management, reported to Council as follows on the recent storm and Hurricane Joaquin:

- There was virtual activation of the Emergency Operations Center and Joint Information System.
- Power outages were minimal – 110.
- Total rainfall was between 6 and 8 inches and tides ran high up to 6.11 feet.
- Overall damage was minimal.

David Ricks, Director of Public Works, reported:

- Significant beach erosion occurred from Little Creek Inlet to Willoughby.

D. THRIVE: RESILIENCE IN VIRGINIA

Christine Morris, Resilience Officer, reported:

- Grant funds have been requested to address flooding in the Newton and Ohio Creeks watersheds.

E. PROJECT MANAGEMENT UPDATE

- David Ricks, Director of Public Works, reported to Council on the acquisition and implementation of a new Project Management System that will greatly improve reporting and managing capital projects.

F. CLOSED SESSION

Motion for closed session was approved for purposes which are set out in **Clause (s) 3 of subsection (A) of Section 2.2-3711 of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act**, as amended:

- (6) Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members regarding one legal, contractual matter for a lease downtown where such briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating posture of the city.

Yes: Johnson, Protogyrou, Riddick, Smigiel, Whibley, Winn and Frain.

No: None.